AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 with the following paragraph:

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/864,636, filed 05/24/01, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/864,426, filed 05/24/01, each of which is a continutation-in- part of U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 09/577,304, filed 05/24/00, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,759,226 on 07/06/04, and 09/758,282, filed 01/11/01, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,635,463 on 10/21/03, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/350,309, filed 07/09/99, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,348,314 on 02/19/02 and which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent aApplication Serial No. 08/756,386, filed 11/26/96, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,985,557 on 11/16/99, and is also a continuation-in-part of co-pending aApplication sSerial nNo. 09/381,212, filed 02/08/00, which is a national entry of PCT aApplication nNo. US 98/05809, which claims priority to U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 08/823,516, filed 03/24/97, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,994,069 on 11/30/99, 08/759,038, filed 12/21/96, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,090,543 on 07/18/00, 08/756,386, filed 11/26/96, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,985,557 on 11/16/99, 08/682,853, filed 07/12/96, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,001,567 on 12/14/99, and 08/599,491, filed 01/24/96, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,846,717on 12/08/98, and PCT aApplication nNo. US 97/01072, filed on 01/21/97.

On page 35, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 with the following paragraph:

-- The present invention also provides a method for detecting the presence of a target nucleic acid comprising: cleaving an invasive cleavage structure, said invasive cleavage structure comprising an RNA target nucleic acid; and detecting the cleavage of the invasive cleavage structure. Such an assay may comprise a multiplex assay, wherein

multiple invasive cleavage structures are cleaved. Such structures include structures formed on different target nucleic acids, as well as, structures formed on different locations of the sample target nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the target nucleic acid comprises a first region and a second region, said second region downstream of and contiguous to said first region. In some embodiments, the invasive cleavage structure comprises the target nucleic acid, a first oligonucleotide, and a second oligonucleotide, wherein at least a portion of the first oligonucleotide is completely complementary to the first portion of the first target nucleic acid, and wherein the second oligonucleotide comprises a 3' portion and a 5' portion, wherein the 5' portion is completely complementary to said second portion of the target nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the 3' portion of the second oligonucleotide comprises a 3' terminal nucleotide not complementary to said target nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the 3' portion of the second oligonucleotide consists of a single nucleotide not complementary to the target nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the method further comprises the steps of forming a second invasive cleavage structure comprising a non-target cleavage product and cleaving the second invasive cleavage structure. In some embodiments, the invasive cleavage structure or the second invasive cleavage comprises an oligonucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:709-2640. In other embodiments, the invasive cleavage structure or the second invasive cleavage comprises an oligonucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:169-211 and 619-706. In still other embodiments, the invasive cleavage structure or the second invasive cleavage comprises an oligonucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:~~2837~~2868-4004. In some preferred embodiments, the target nucleic acid comprises a cytochrome P450 RNA or a cytokine RNA. In some embodiments, the first region or the second region of the target nucleic acid encompasses a splice junction, an exon (or a portion thereof), or an intron (or a portion thereof). In some embodiments, the RNA target nucleic acid is provided in a cell lysate. In some embodiments, the first oligonucleotide is covalently attached to the second oligonucleotide. Such oligonucleotides find use, for example, in methods described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,714,320 and 5,854,033, herein incorporated by reference

in their entireties. The present invention also provides kits containing one or more of the components used in the above methods. --